

House budget bill cuts main local aid accounts by \$160M



April 14, 2010

The House Ways and Means Committee released a fiscal 2011 state budget bill today that would cut the main municipal and education aid accounts by \$160 million (about 3 percent overall), pretty much in line with what House and Senate leaders had announced in March.

The House bill would cut the Unrestricted General Government Aid account to \$899 million, a 4 percent reduction for each city and town.

Chapter 70 education distributions would be cut by \$122 million, to \$3.93 billion. Most school districts would see a 4 percent cut to the combined Chapter 70 appropriation and temporary federal state fiscal stabilization fund (SFSF) grant amount for fiscal 2010, though some districts would be cut less in order to avoid funding below the foundation budget amount. In fiscal 2010, the state budgeted \$167 million in SFSF funds to supplement education aid. In fiscal 2011, the SFSF supplement would drop to \$75 million under the House budget committee's plan.

In the executive summary accompanying the budget bill, the House budget committee noted that funding for the Cherry Sheet payment-in-lieu-of-taxes account and aid to public libraries would be level-funded. For schools, there would be a small increase (less than 2 percent) for the special education "circuit breaker" program and a 5 percent increase for transportation reimbursements to regional school districts.

The House is scheduled to begin its debate of the budget bill on Monday, April 26.

The governor had proposed to level-fund the main local aid accounts in his budget bill, which was filed in January.

- [Link to the House budget Web site](#)
- [Link to the Section 3 \(local aid amounts\) in the House budget bill](#)
- [Link to the Division of Local Services Web site for estimated Cherry Sheets based on the House Ways and Means budget](#)

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Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Division of Local Services
Municipal Databank/Local Aid Section

Chapter 70 and SFSF

LEA Code	DOR Code	Municipality	FY2010	FY2010 & SFSF Chapter 70	HWM FY2011 Chapter 70	HWM FY2011 SFSF	FY2011 HWM Ch70 & SFSF
			SFSF	FY2010 Chapter 70	SFSF	FY2011 Chapter 70	SFSF
8 008	AMHERST	AMHERST	6,141,373	0	6,141,373	5,782,594	113,124
605 703	AMHERST PELHAM	AMHERST PELHAM	9,685,959	0	9,685,959	9,120,106	178,415

**Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Division of Local Services
FY2011 Local Aid Estimates**

AMHERST

	FY2010 Cherry Sheet Estimate	Governor's Budget (House 2)	FY2011 HWM Budget Proposal	FY2011 TOWN BUDGET
Education:				
Chapter 70*	6,141,373	6,141,373	5,782,594	5,895,718
School Transportation	0	0	0	0
Retired Teachers' Pensions	0	0	0	0
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	320,491	375,030	290,873	324,886
Offset Receipts:				
School Lunch	6,866	6,018	6,018	6,866
School Choice Receiving Tuition	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, All Education Items	6,468,730	6,522,421	6,079,485	
General Government:				
Unrestricted General Government Aid	7,417,544	7,417,544	7,120,842	7,120,842
Local Share of Racing Taxes	0	0	0	0
Regional Public Libraries	0	0	0	0
Police Career Incentive	33,348	16,788	16,788	33,348
Urban Renewal Projects	0	0	0	0
Veterans' Benefits	91,069	152,021	152,021	91,069
State Owned Land	163,254	158,501	158,501	163,254
Exemptions: Vets, Blind, Surviving Spouses & Elderly	39,754	38,266	38,266	39,754
Offset Receipts:				
Public Libraries	65,273	64,078	64,078	67,522
Sub-Total, All General Government	7,810,242	7,847,198	7,550,496	
Total Estimated Receipts	14,278,972	14,369,619	13,629,981	13,743,259

*The HWM budget proposal supplements Chapter 70 with additional funding from State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF). The SFSF is a grant and should not be considered part of general fund revenue for budgeting purposes. Click [here](#) for a complete list of FY2010 actual Chapter 70 and SFSF.

HWM TOWN (113,278)

FY2011 Local Aid Assessments
AMHERST

	FY2010 Cherry Sheet Estimate	FY2011 Governor's Budget (House 2)	FY2011 HWM Budget Proposal	FY2011 TOWN
County Assessments:				
County Tax	0	0	0	0
Suffolk County Retirement	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, County Assessments	0	0	0	0
 State Assessments and Charges:				
Retired Employees Health Insurance	0	0	0	0
Retired Teachers Health Insurance	950,146	1,052,595	1,008,999	1,007,155
Mosquito Control Projects	0	0	0	0
Air Pollution Districts	7,265	7,365	7,347	7,265
Metropolitan Area Planning Council	0	0	0	0
Old Colony Planning Council	0	0	0	0
RMV Non-Renewal Surcharge	59,820	57,000	57,000	59,820
Sub-Total, State Assessments	1,017,231	1,116,960	1,073,346	
 Transportation Authorities:				
MBTA	0	0	0	0
Boston Metro. Transit District	0	0	0	0
Regional Transit	819,335	868,120	868,120	868,120
Sub-Total, Transportation Authorities	819,335	868,120	868,120	
 Annual Charges Against Receipts:				
Special Education	12,343	6,907	6,907	12,343
STRAP Repayments	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, Annual Charges	12,343	6,907	6,907	6,907
 Tuition Assessments				
School Choice Sending Tuition	272,827	248,355	248,355	286,468
Charter School Sending Tuition	481,428	677,027	593,165	630,630
Essex County Tech Sending Tuition	0	0	0	0
Sub-Total, Tuition Assessments	754,255	925,382	841,520	
 Total Estimated Charges	2,603,164	2,917,369	2,789,893	2,893,504

For information about how the estimates were determined and what may cause them to change, click: [Local Aid Estimate Program Summary](#).

HWM v. TOWN (103,611)

**Massachusetts Department of Revenue
Division of Local Services
FY2011 Local Aid Estimates**

AMHERST PELHAM

	FY2011 Sheet Estimate	Governor's Budget (House 2)	FY2011 HWM Budget Proposal
Education:			
Chapter 70*	9,685,959	9,685,959	9,120,106
Regional School Transportation	549,093	521,022	542,293
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	328,474	233,751	461,767
Offset Receipts:			
School Lunch	7,465	6,310	6,310
School Choice Receiving Tuition	478,379	471,844	471,844
Essex County Tech Receiving Tuition	0	0	0
Total Estimated Receipts*	11,049,370	10,918,886	10,602,320
 Estimated Charges:			
Special Education	18,992	4,403	4,403
School Choice Sending Tuition	67,197	91,000	91,000
Charter School Sending Tuition	899,068	907,346	1,140,275
Total Estimated Charges	985,257	1,002,749	1,235,678
 Receipts Net of Charges*			
	10,064,113	9,916,137	9,366,642

	FY2011 REGION
Charter Tuition Reimbursement	9,298,521
Charter School Sending Tuition	502,414
Charter School Receiving Tuition	- (budgeted as net expense)
Total Estimated Receipts	650,000

*The HWM budget proposal supplements Chapter 70 with additional funding from State Fiscal Stabilization Funds (SFSF). The SFSF is a grant and should not be considered part of general fund revenue for budgeting purposes. Click [here](#) for a complete list of FY2010 actual Chapter 70 and SFSF and potential FY2011 HWM Chapter 70 and SFSF.

For additional information about how the estimates were determined and what may cause them to change, please click on the following link:
[Local Aid Estimate Program Summary](#).